



NIMAGA NOTES AUGUST 2016

AUGUST IS THE BEST MONTH...

The two-day Club Championship, the Midweek at EagleBrook, and the Two-Man tournament, all in August. That is a lot of fun for one month!! Get your entries in!!

ALL MEMBERS

NIMAGA is an organization run by volunteers. We all have a stake in keeping NIMAGA alive and flourishing. If you know someone who may be interested in tournament golf, let them know about your experience in NIMAGA. The more members we have, the more beneficial it is to everyone.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

FREEDOM OPEN

Palmer

Gross- Jerry Casper

Net Tom O'Brien*

Player

Gross- Carl Janas

Net- Ken Koranda

Trevino

Gross- Steve Barnaby

Net- Randy Samoska

JULY MIDWEEK

Low Div

Gross- Tom O'Brien

Net- Robert Yedinak

High Div

Gross- Doug Peters

Net- Nick Orlando

*Won in a Playoff

On the Tee Sheet I have an asterisk (*) next to my name, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? That means you did not meet the minimum number of scores reported requirement for that tournament, so you will win no more than a \$15 minimum prize. NIMAGA uses the revision date prior to the tournament entry due date. So for example the tournament entry due date for the Freedom Open was June 30th, we used the June 15th revision date to see if you reported at a minimum four scores. For the Club Championship, the tournament entry due date is July 27th, NIMAGA will use the July 15th revision date, and your minimum number of score requirement is six scores. REMEMBER ALWAYS REPORT YOUR NON-TOURNAMENT SCORES.

*****UPCOMING EVENTS*****

Two-Man Better Ball
August 28th at Old Orchard CC
Deadline to enter is August 16th

Patroit's Day Classic
Option 1
Willow Glen Golf Course
Saturday, September 10, 2016
Option 2
Ravisloe CC
Sunday, September 11, 2016

Deadline for either/both is August 31st!!

MILWAUKEE CHALLENGE

Every year, NIMAGA plays a match against the MCPLA group from Milwaukee. It is held at Evergreen Golf Club in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. The date this year is September 24th, with a shotgun start at 8am. Afterwards, everyone is treated to a steak dinner at the course.

If you have not participated in the past, you are missing out.

If you are interested in the event, please email fiarito98@comcast.net or jj1210@comcast.net

DEADLINES FOR REGISTRATION

When NIMAGA sets up the schedule for the year, we try to establish a fair deadline for entry into each tournament. Please take the extra time to enter the tournament either online using PayPal, or by US Mail. Too many times we have people trying to enter by sending us an email and asking to bring the payment to the event, or handing in the payment and form for the next event at an event. With all of the other things that must be taken care of on the day of the tournament, we cannot accept entries that day. There is too much of an opportunity that it will get misplaced.

We try to make it as convenient as possible for all of the members. If you miss a deadline, please email one of the Tournament Chairmen and we will try and accommodate you.

Thanks for your help and understanding!!

PRESIDENTIAL PRESS

Okay guys, 4 events left to qualify for the NIMAGA Players Championship at Prairie Bluff, and we have some great courses: Eagle Brook Country Club (West), Old Orchard Country Club (Northwest), Ravisloe Country Club (South), and Willow Glen GC at the naval base (North). Please come out and play.

I want to thank everyone for helping improve our pace of play especially this past weekend where in the LOW group the average round time was 4:22. Playing ready golf really helps improve the pace of play.

This year has been a tough year for the board. We have been stretched very thin, especially in the LOW and Palmer division. It is tough on tournament day and incredibly difficult when you only have one director playing. That being said on behalf of Jeff Toth, Dan Plens, and I, there are several individuals we would like to thank and there are probably a lot more we should thank.

To those helping with skins envelopes - Robert Yedinak, Tom O'Brien, Dan Dorr, and Tim Jordan
THANK YOU!

To those helping out the day of the event - Perry Variano, Rolando Leyva, Alistair Brown, Brandon Rowatt, Alan Rehm, Rick Soja, Tim Prentiss, Daniel Limina THANK YOU!

To those of you who always take the time to say Thanks after the round - Dick Freund, Mario Conte, Terry Boksha, George Zdarsky, Tom Jenks, Jim Murrow, Bob Lake, Dave Dianovsky, Bill Powers, David Ogoli, Dave Sloan and so many others - YOU ARE WELCOME! Two words mean a lot.

I hope to see all of you at the Two-Man and incredibly fun event!

MEET A MEMBER

Tom O'Brien

Age: 45

Year Joined: 2012



In the fall of 2011, Tom was playing Klein Creek and joined up with another single on the back nine. The other single told him about NIMAGA and how much fun it was. Tom thought it would be cool to play competitive golf and see how well he could do. He checked into NIMAGA before the beginning of the next season and signed up. Unfortunately, Tom forgot the person who he played with that day, so he can't give him the credit, or say "Thank You"!

To date, Tom has won eight tournaments. His first was low net in the Low Division at the 2012 August Championship, played at Bartlett Hills and Blackberry Oaks. His most recent win was his first low gross win in the Low Division at this past July Midweek, played at Whitetail Ridge.

Tom has been in two playoffs over his career, winning them both. The first was for 4th place net in the 2012 Tournament of Winners. He played Cliff Levy in a three hole playoff, giving Cliff a stroke every hole, and won. The second was in this year's Freedom Open. Unfortunately, we could not have an on-course playoff, so we had a scorecard playoff with Tom, Frank Fiarito, and Rick Soja. Fortunately, Tom parred the last hole, while the others did not.

One of Tom's favorite memories is his very first tee ball at his first tournament with NIMAGA. It was at Schaumburg golf course, and he was hitting his last few balls on the range, thinking he still had ten minutes before his tee time. All of a sudden he hears " Who is this Tom O'Brien? We gotta get going so we don't get behind!". So he ran over to the tee, teed one up, rushed the swing, and ended up hitting his first shot with NIMAGA out-of-bounds!!(ed note- I think you would agree that he has played pretty good since then)

Another favorite memory in a tournament happened at Hilldale CC. He was having a terrible round, and on Hole 6, he put one behind a huge poplar tree on the right side of the fairway. Being a lefty, he had to hook it around the tree to have a chance to get to the green. He did hook it right at the green, but hit it way too hard. The ball hit the stick squarely, bounced back, and had so much overspin that it ended up rolling back at the hole and going in for an eagle!! That is why he always gets in the skin game!

Tom thinks the best part of NIMAGA is all of the new people he has met, and always looks forward to the events so he can catch up with the guys he talks with regularly and those he has not seen in a while.

Thanks for sharing Tom!!!

****HANDICAP REPORTING****

As a member of NIMAGA, it is imperative that you report all of your scores, independent of all the NIMAGA regular tournaments, timely and accurately to the Interstate Handicap system. In Handicap Reporting Match Play Tournament, the MPT Leadership are posting scores, not the members. The winner is to confirm the scores with his opponent and submit those scores as soon as possible. This helps to insure that the handicaps are as current as possible, and the field is level for all players.

*****NEW FOR 2016- To further support the key System premise of peer review, scores made while playing alone will no longer be acceptable for handicap purposes. This change underscores the importance of providing full and accurate information regarding a player's potential scoring ability, and the ability of other players to form a reasonable basis for supporting or disputing a posted score.**

HANDICAP RULE EXPLANATION

In an effort to establish and maintain parity in NIMAGA Tournaments a handicap policy has been established by the Board of Directors. All members will have a USGA Handicap and a NIMAGA Tournament handicap which will be calculated from participated NIMAGA Tournaments "Only". The NIMAGA Tournament Handicap will be based solely on golf scores that are recorded in regular NIMAGA Tournaments, including Mid-Week Tournaments, the Seniors Tournament and the NIMAGA Players Championship. The tournament handicap is calculated at 96% and takes the best 3 scores of 6 tournament rounds played to establish the NIMAGA Tournament handicap. The member will use the lower of the two handicaps (USGA or Tournament) when playing in NIMAGA Tournaments and is identified with the letter "t" next to the member's handicap in the Tournament Pairings Sheet (i.e. 16t).

Rules Corner

Just a little refresher:

Water Hazards

Red Stakes

If the ball is hit where the red stakes are located for a water hazard, you have *four* options.

- (1) You can play the ball as it lies inside the hazard,
- (2) Hit from the original position the ball was in, but incur a stroke and distance penalty,
- (3) Take the imaginary line from the hole where you think the ball last crossed the hazard line and drop the ball anywhere behind that point, but the ball must be kept between you and the flag.
- (4) Take the point where you think the ball last crossed the hazard line and measure 2 club lengths from that point. You can drop the ball, no nearer the hole, anywhere inside those 2 club lengths.

Yellow Stakes

If the ball is hit where the yellow stakes are located for a water hazard, you have *three* options.

- (1) Play the ball as it lies inside the hazard, use the original position the ball was in, but incurring a stroke and distance penalty,

(2) Hit from the original position the ball was in, but incur a stroke and distance penalty,

(3) Take the imaginary line from the hole to where you think the ball last crossed the hazard line and drop the ball anywhere behind that point, but you must keep the ball between you and the flag.

Unplayable Lies

If you have deemed the lie unplayable, there are a few options available. You may deem the ball unplayable at any place on the course except in a water hazard.

Under a one-stroke penalty, you must play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played, or drop a ball behind the point where the ball is located, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped, or drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball is located, but not nearer the hole. However, if the ball is in a bunker, and you elect to use one of the last two options, you must drop the ball inside the bunker.

In NIMAGA tournament play, if you are reasonably sure that you have hit a ball out-of-bounds, play a provisional ball. This will help speed up play, as you will not have to go back and hit another ball.

19th HOLE

These greens are so fast I have to hold my putter over the ball and hit it with the shadow. – Sam Snead



In My Hand I Hold A Ball,
White And Dimpled, And Rather Small.
Oh How Bland It Does Appear,
This Harmless Looking Little Sphere.
By Its Size I Could Not Guess,
Or The Awesome Strength It Does Possess.
But Since I Fell Beneath Its Spell,
I've Wandered Through The Fires Of Hell.
My Life Has Not Been Quite The Same,
Since I Chose To Play This Stupid Game.
It Rules My Mind For Hours On End,
A Fortune It Has Made Me Spend.
It Has Made Me Curse And Made Me Cry,
And Hate Myself And Want To Die.
It Promises Me A Thing Called Par,
If I Hit It Straight And Far.
To Master Such A Tiny Ball,
Should Not Be Very Hard At All.
But My Desires The Ball Refuses,
And Does Exactly As It Chooses.
It Hooks And Slices, Dribbles And Dies,
And Disappears Before My Eyes.
Often It Will Have A Whim,
To Hit A Tree Or Take A Swim.
With Miles Of Grass On Which To Land,
It Finds A Tiny Patch Of Sand.
Then Has Me Offering Up My Soul,
If Only It Would Find The Hole.
It's Made Me Whimper Like A Pup,
And Swear That I Will Give It Up.
And Take To Drink To Ease My Sorrow,
But The Ball Knows ... I'll Be Back Tomorrow.

